

In the Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Withdrawn) A method whereby no evaporative steps are required in the isolation process.
3. (Withdrawn) A method for purification of solvent extracted broth by column or batch treatment with activated carbon, using a solvent system that retains impurities but not ansamitocins.
4. (Withdrawn) A method for purification of toluene extract by column or batch treatment with activated carbon in a toluene/polar alcohol mixture.
5. (Withdrawn) A method of purification of eluate from silica chromatography by column or batch treatment with activated carbon, using a solvent system that retains impurities but not ansamitocins.
6. (Withdrawn) A method of purification of eluate from silica chromatography by column or batch treatment with activated carbon, in a toluene/polar alcohol mixture.
7. (Withdrawn) A method for crystallisation of ansamitocins using a halogenated hydrocarbon and a polar solvent.
8. (New) A method for capture of ansamitocin comprising the steps of contacting a composition comprising an ansamitocin to silica gel, wherein said composition comprising ansamitocin is toluene extract from whole broth.
9. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the ansamitocin is from *Actinosynnema pretiosum*.
10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the ansamitocin is P-3.
11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the silica column is run under pressure.
12. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the pressure is about 20 psi.
13. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the ansamitocin is eluted from the column using methanol/toluene.
14. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising pooling the eluted ansamitocin and drying the pooled eluate to dryness, forming a dry eluant.
15. (New) The method of claim 14, further comprising dissolving the dry eluant.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the eluant is redissolved with methanol and ethyl acetate.

17. (New) The method of claim 16 further comprising forming crystals of said ansamitocin.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, further comprising adding heptane to the redissolved eluant.

19. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the yield of ansamitocin is approximately 92%.

20. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the yield of ansamitocin is approximately 98%.

21. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the yield of ansamitocin is greater than 98%.